

VISIT...

LANZAROTE
Caliente.COM

SUPER HEROES FROM THE MIND OF
CLIVE BARKER

BLISS! YOU
BROUGHT THIS
THING TO LIFE--

--YOU'VE
GOT TO
STOP IT!

I'M TRYING--BUT

I CAN'T!

DIRECT EDITION

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**EVIL
THOUGHTS**

OBI

PAGE
AND
PREFACE 93

ONCE, LONG AGO, SUPER HEROES WERE REAL. NOW, THE POWER IS REBORN INTO FOUR PRODUCTS OF THE GRIT AND GLITZ OF HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD: A JOCK, A RICH GIRL, A DRUG ADDICT, AND A CHILD OF THE STREETS. THEY WILL BECOME THE HEROES OF A NEW GENERATION — IF THEY CAN SURVIVE.

IN THE LAST TWELVE HOURS, LISA MOFFITT'S LIFE HAS BECOME A LIVING NIGHTMARE!

WHEN HER BOYFRIEND DROPPED HER LIKE A RANCID HUNK OF HAMBURGER, PESTIFER LED HER TO A NEWFOUND FRIEND: ESCHBACHER, WHO GAVE HER SUPER ABILITIES BEYOND ALL IMAGINING...

I TRUSTED YOU WITH MY POWERS-- AND YOU STOLE THEM FOR YOURSELF! YOU LET ME DIE!

NO, ESCHBACHER! WE KEPT THE FAXIS ABILITIES-- TO FIGHT FOR BIRTH! THAT'S WHAT YOU WANTED!

"A FAXIS, A FAXIS"-- EVERYONE KNOWS THAT MURDERY KHYME, GIL! THE FAXIS WARRIORS NEVER EXISTED... THAT'S ALL IN YOUR HEAD!

NO! YOU MAY BE SHORT-- BUT THE FAXIS WERE BELIEVE!

CLIVE BARKER PRESENTS **HYPERKIND**

THE

CREATED BY CLIVE BARKER
 FRED BURKE STORY
 PARIS CULLINS PERCLES
 TOM SMITH COLORS
 STEVE PATRICK LETTERS
 MARC MC LAURIN EDITOR
 TOM DEVALICO - CHIEF
 MALCOLM SMITH CONSULTING EDITOR
 CARL POTTS EXECUTIVE EDITOR

NEXT WEEK, SCHOOL STARTS... JUNIOR YEAR, BUT LISA -- WHO SOMETIMES CALLS HERSELF ESCHBACHER -- HAS GOT OTHER THINGS ON HER MIND...

HYPERKIND™ Vol. 1, No. 3, November, 1993. Published monthly by MARVEL COMICS. Terry Stewart, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice President. Publishing OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Application to mail at second class rates is pending in New York, NY and at additional mailing offices. Published monthly. All **HYPERKIND** material copyright © 1993 Clive Barker. All rights reserved. Price \$1.75 per copy in the U.S. and \$2.25 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: \$21.00 U.S.; \$33.00 foreign; and Canadian subscribers must add \$4.00 for postage and GST. GST #R127032852. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. **HYPERKIND**, **THE NEXT FAXIS** (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of CLIVE BARKER. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO **HYPERKIND**, **THE NEXT FAXIS**, c/o MARVEL COMICS, SUBSCRIPTION DEPT., 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Printed in Canada.

ESCH-
BABY'S RIGHT.
HONEY... SUPER
HEROES ARE JUST
A FANTASY... AN
UNHEALTHY
PROJECTION OF
AN UNSTABLE
MIND...

...A LITTLE
THERAPY
WILL FIX YOU
UP IN NO
TIME!



BLISS...
COULD HAVE
BE THE CAUSE
OF THIS & SHE
LOOKS MEAN,
MALEVOLENT...
MORE LIKE
DYAN DIVINE
THAN HER NEW
SUPER-SELF...

YOU--
YOU'RE
DOING THIS
SOMEHOW!
YOU'VE GOT THE
POWER TO
CONTROL
DREAMS!

NO,
HONEY--
I'VE GOT THE
POWER TO
CONTROL
YOUR BOY-
FRIEND!



A pixie, a pixie, I'll
tell you what the faxie
if you come with me
on the shining
path...

NO!
STOP THAT
KENNY!

HE'S SO
GOOD...
AND HE'S ALL
MINE!



GOT
TO MAKE
KENNY
THINK
LOGICALLY.



HIS
KEY WILL
TRANSFORM
HIM...

...INTO
LOGIX!

FWASH

YO
AMOKA! THAT
GUY'S HURTIN'
MY BIG
SISTER!

DON'T
WORRY, DANNY.
BOY! I'VE MONT
LET NOTHING
BAD HAPPEN!

BUT THIS IS NOT
THE LOGIX LISA
KNOWS--IT IS
HER DEEPEST
DREAD... HER EX,
KENNY EMBRETT,
ENGORGED WITH
LUST!



GIRLS GIRLS GIRLS--LET'S
GET IT ON, LISA! ALL-
LIVE, ALL WILD, ALL THE
TIME I YES!

HE'S
SUCH A
SILLY BEAST--
ISN'T LOGIX
YUMMY,
LISA?



NO!
HELP
ME!



AT THE UNDERGROUND, DYAN DYVINE SEARCHES FOR REVELATIONS A LITTLE LESS ABSTRACT... BUT NO LESS ENTICING.

NOT EXACTLY THE PERFORMANCE WE WERE EXPECTING THIS MORNING...

I'M SORRY, MADAME NOE, I--

"BUT THEN I GUESS YOUR HEADS THAT WERE SUFFICIENT PROOF OF THE AUDIENCE'S SCREAM..."

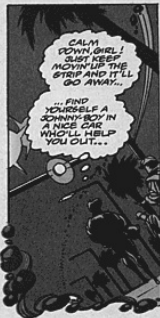
I'M JUST TIRED, THAT'S ALL. A LITTLE DOWN...



I THINK NOT, DYAN. YOU KNOW THE RULES, GIRL-- YOU HAVE TO MAKE THE CLIENTS SMILE IF YOU WANT CANDY.

BUT I--





MELRODIE AVENUE, WHERE THE THIRD NEO-PAXIS IS INFILTRATING IN HIS FAVORITE ADDICTION...

GOLDEN AGE COMICS

...A NEED THAT'S ABOUT TO PROVE HIGHLY INFORMATIVE!

E'NON, GEORGE!

AW, SHUT UP, CARLOS-- I'M MORE INTERESTED IN THE GOLDEN AGE TODAY!

...\$ BTS & THAT'S CRAZY! AND IF I RIP IT OFF, MY FAVE STORE'S OFF LIMITS!

PEACON GIVES US THE PACKING-- WE WALTZ INTO EVEN HOUSE, MAKE THE TRADE-- PEECE A' CAKE!

I DON'T KNOW, MAN. PETTY STUFF IS ONE THING-- BUT YOU'RE TALKIN' POPE HERE...

...I DON'T WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN THAT SCENE! IT MAKES ME THINK OF MY LITTLE BROTHERS-- LITTLE SISTERS...

YEAH, THAT MARIA'S GONNA GROW UP INTO ONE FINE CREATURE... BUT HEY-- YOUR LOSS, MAN! LET'S CHECK OUT THE NEW BOOKS!

A PAXIS COMIC-- WHADENYA KNOW & AND ONLY...

CARLOS, I JUST MAY NEED A LITTLE INFLEX O' CAPITAL, IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.

INDEED I DO, BUDDY-- LOOKS LIKE I GOT A PARTNER!

SO WHAT'S WITH THE HELIOPOLIS CINEMA, CARLOS & YOU KNOW THE BOULEVARD BETTER'N ANYBODY-- WHY AIN'T THERE NO SQUATTERS THERE?

HEY IT'S THE PHAROS' SHINE, MAN! I'D BURN A CANDLE AT THE HELIOPOLIS SOONER THAN I'D SAY THE AYE MARIA!

BESIDES-- THEY SAY NOBODY WHO'S EVER BLUSTED INTO HELIO HAS COME OUT ALIVE-- KNOW WHAT I MEAN? SPOOKY IF YA--

SPIT, GEORGE! SCOT, SAYE!

BUT WHERE'D YA SUDDENLY GET THE CAJONES TO PULL A STUNT LIKE THAT?

INSTINCT, MAN-- JUST INSTINCT...

CARLOS! LOOK OUT!

FWUMP

SCREE



THE MORNING OF THE
LOS ANGELES TIMES.

ARE YOU SURE
YOU'RE OPERATING
THE MICROFILM
READER PROPERLY?

I CAN OPERATE
ANYTHING THESE
DAYS... THAT'S NOT
THE PROBLEM!

IT'S JUST THAT
PAGES SEEM TO BE
MISSING... IN EVERY
NEWSPAPER I'D
EXPECT TO FIND
THE PAGES
MENTIONED!

WELL, MISSY...
YOU ARE LOOKING
AT ANFELLY OLD
RECORDS. THOSE WERE
THE WAR YEARS...
THERE WERE A LOT
OF PAPER DRIVES...

AND UNEXPLAINED
FIRES DESTROYED
EVERY COPY OF
CERTAIN EDITIONS.
I KNOW, THANKS --
IT ALL MAKES
SENSE TO ME NOW...

SENSE MY BUTT!
WELL, DADDY--THE
NEWSPAPERS ARE
USELESS. IT LOOKS
LIKE YOU'RE MY
ONLY HOPE.

WE'RE
HERE AT PARAGON
PICTURES CORPORATE
HEADQUARTERS, THE
SCENE LAST NIGHT
OF AN ALLEGED
SUPER HERO
BATTLE...

MR. DOORE
HAS NO COMMENT
ON THE DESTRUCTION
OR ITS PERPETRATORS
AT THIS TIME, THAT'S
ALL I CAN SAY...

HI, MAX--I'M
JUST GOING UP
TO SEE
DADDY...

LIPSTAIRS...

SCHOOL'S
STILL A WEEK OFF
LISA, BUT I ADMIRE
YOU WORKING
AHEAD!

WELL...
YOU KNOW
ME,
DADDY...

GIVE THE
OLD PARAGON
PICTURES
NEWSBOYS
A TRY.

THE ARCHIVES
AT THE PARAGON
HISTORICAL TRUST
AREN'T OPEN TO
THE PUBLIC, BUT
I THINK WE CAN
SWING IT...

THANKS,
DADDY!

AH, THE SMOG
GODS ARE SMILING
ON ME TODAY. NO
INVERSION LAYER--
PERFECT TOP-DOWN
WEATHER!

AND MAYBE
DADDY'S GIVEN
ME THE CLUE I
NEED TO SOLVE
THIS PAGES
PUZZLE...

URRRRRRRMMMMMMMMMMMM

"--AND GET
THAT TRAMP
DYING OUT OF
MY LIFE
FOR GOOD!"

GET
DOWN!

FWASH

STAY BACK!
THESE
BLISS MAY
BE DANGEROUS!

HEY
LADY--WHAT
THE HECK ARE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT?!

OH, GREAT!
I GUESS I'M
THE ONLY ONE
WHO CAN SEE
THE SUCKERS...

...BUT, THANKFULLY
THEY'VE ENGORGED
THEMSELVES TO DEATH
ON MY POWER-FLASH!

AS BLISS
I FEEL A LOT
MORE STABLE...

...I KNOW
I'M NOT
MALLUCI-
NATING...

--CAUSE
I'M THE MASTER
OF MEN'S MINDS!
OR SOMETHING LIKE
THAT, ANTHONY.

BUT THAT
DIDN'T STOP
THESE BLOD THINGS
FROM CAMPING OUT
ON HOLLYWOOD
BOULEVARD!

C'MON, JOANNA!
YOU'RE WORTH WAY
MORE TO ME THAN
A MILLION
BUCKS!

YOU
WOULDN'T
LET ME TAKE
ON EVEN ONE
INDECENT
PROPOSAL?

HA! NOT
EVEN ONE!
I NEED
YOU--AND
NOBODY
ELSE WILL
DO!

MMMMMM

HON.



THEY
SEEM LIKE
SUCH NICE
KIDS...

...BUT
THOSE SLIME-
BALLS ABOVE THEM--
FEEDING OFF
EACH OTHER...
GROSS

WHAT'S
HAPPENING WITH
THEM?

BLISS OPENS
THEIR MINDS...
FALLING
DEEPLY INTO
THEIR DREAMS...

...LOOKING FOR
SOME SIGN OF
HIDDEN
DEPRIVITY.

THERE IS NONE.

HARD-WORKING...
HARD-LOVING...

...THEIR HAPPINESS IS
SOMEHOW DEPENDENT
ON EACH OTHER...

...JUST THE WAY
TRUE LOVE'S
SUPPOSED TO BE.

THE
THINGS
SEEM
INVISIBLE...

I CAN TAKE
CARE OF
THAT!

BLISS FIRES A WAVE
OF PURE DREAM-
STUFF AT THE FRENZIED
BLOBS...

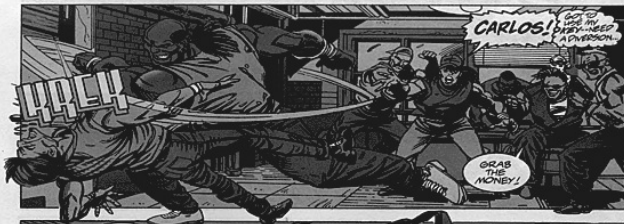
...GIVING FORM
AND SUBSTANCE TO
THEIR THROBBING
PULSATIONS!

NOW JOE AND
JOANNA CANNOT
HELP BUT SEE THE
LIVING SHADOWS OF
THEIR FANTASY...

SHADOWS THAT
SEND THEM SCURRY-
ING IN HORROR...

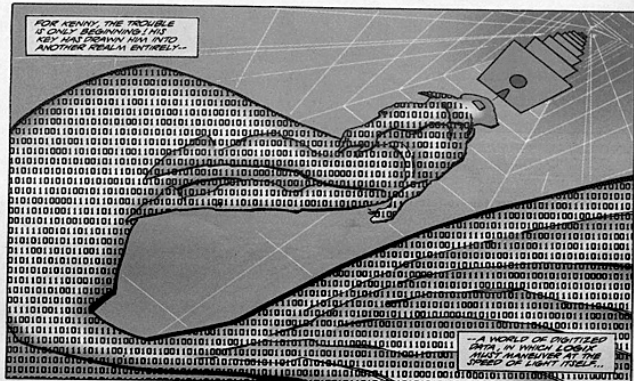


...AND
BLISS IN
HOT
PURSUIT!





FOR KENNY, THE TROUBLE
IS ONLY BEGINNING! HIS
KEY HAS DRUNK HIM INTO
ANOTHER REALM ENTIRELY--



—A WORLD OF DIGITIZED
DATA, IN WHICH LOGIX
MUST MANEUVER AT THE
SPEED OF LIGHT ITSELF...



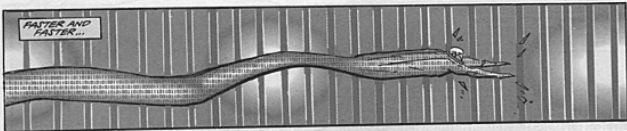
THAT BLOWING THING UP
AHEAD-- LIKE THE SYMBOL
THAT ATE UP MY COM-
PUTER ENTRIES!

I'VE GOT TO STOP IT--
BEFORE IT CONSUMES
ALL MY FATHER'S FILES!



BUT
NOW?

FASTER AND
FASTER...



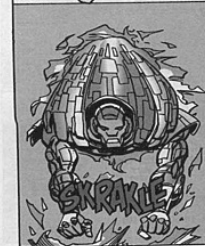
...WITH A FURY BORN OF
INTIMATE FRUSTRATION...



...LOGIX ATTACKS THE
COMPUTER VIRUS,
PUNCHING THROUGH IT
TO THE SOURCE!



WAA



SKRAKLE

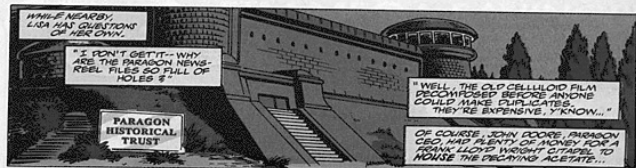
I'VE GOT TO
MOVE FAST--
BEFORE ANY-
ONE SPOTS
ME!

BETTER POWER
DOWN--MIGHT BE
EASIER TO EXPLAIN!!
A NOBBY KID AROUND
HERE THAN A SUPER-
HERO!

BUT WHERE
AM I?

AND WHY DO THESE
COMPUTERS WANT
TO DESTROY ANY
REFERENCE TO
THE AXIS?







...BUT, SADLY
THERE NEVER WERE
ANY SUPER
HEROES.

PITY.
THEY'D MAKE
THE WORLD MORE
INTERESTING...

KENNY'S

LISA!
WHAT'S
GOING
ON?!



KENNY--UH, UM...
SORRY TO KEEP YOU
WAITING. THIS IS MY
NEW FRIEND...
SAMUEL
KRAMER.

HE'S BEEN
SHOWING ME
MOVIES...IN
THE PARK.

WELL, UH...
GEE. THAT'S
NICE. UM, COULD
WE GET OUT
OF HERE,
MAYBE?

THANKS,
SAM... FOR
EVERY-
THING.

NOTHING TO WORRY
ABOUT WITH
THOSE
TWO...

...JUST
SQUABBLING
TEENAGERS
AND THEIR
HORMONES.

STILL, I'VE GOT
TO REPORT THIS.

NOW THE
HELL DO YOU
GET IN HERE &
FOLLOWING
ME...?

YOU
DON'T
BELIEVE
IT--WE'VE
GOT TO
TALK!



"...TO PARAGON JOHN"

KRAMER REPORTING,
SIR. IT WAS JUST MOFFITT'S
DAUGHTER, CHECKING
OUT A RUMOR. THESE
THINGS HAPPEN.

WELL, IF
WE DON'T STOP
THE NEW PARS--
AND JOHN--
SUCH RUMORS
WILL BE
HAPPENING
ALL OVER.



I'M GOING
TO ISSUE THEM A
CHALLENGE, KRAMER--
SEE IF WE CAN SIMPLY STOP
THEM WITH IMPROVED
FIREPOWER.

IN THE
MEANTIME,
THERE'S BEEN ANOTHER
HYPERKIND PRESENCE--
THIS ONE IN NEW
YORK CITY. ANY
SUGGESTIONS?

WORTH
IS THE BEST
MERC OUT
THERE, SIR. I'LL
GET HER ON IT.

EXCELLENT.

SEE CURRENT ISSUES
OF HEROES & NEW THING.

WHILE KRAMER AND
PARAGON JOHN
COMPARE NOTES,
KENNY AND LISA
DO THE SAME.

SO THE
COMPUTER VIRUS
THAT WIPES
OUT REFERENCES TO
PAXIS IS HERE--AND
THEY CLAIM IT
WAS ALL A
MOVIE!

I DON'T LIKE THIS,
KENNY...MAYBE THEY'RE
RIGHT, ESCHBACHER
COULD'VE TRICKED US
ALL...

IT'S A
LITTLE
CREEPY--BUT
WE CAN
HANDLE IT.

WE JUST
NEED TO STICK
TOGETHER--REMIN
OURSELVES THAT
WHAT HAPPENED
REALLY HAPPENED!

HAVE YOU NOTICED
THAT THE POWERS ARE
CHANGING US EVEN
WHEN WE DON'T
HAVE THE KEYS IN?

YEAH...
I DO SEEM TO
BE DIFFERENT,
SORT OF...

HELP ME,
YOU GUYS! THESE
ANGERY-THINGS--
THEY'RE SUCKING
UP EVERYBODY'S
SOULS!

WHA--?!
DY--I MEAN,
BLAST! WHAT ARE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT?!

"SOUL-
SUCKERS"?'S
GIVE ME A
BREAK! SHE'S OFF
HER NUT, KENNY--
CAN'T YOU SEE
THAT?!

NOT SO
FAST, LISA--
WE'VE EACH BEEN
DRAWN HERE,
SOMEHOW!

LOOK,
I'LL PROVE
IT! YOU CAN'T
SEE THE BLOB-
THING NOW...

...BUT WHAT
HAPPENS
WHEN I PUMP
IT FULLA
JUICE!

THEY
ALL HEAD
HERE--LIKE
THIS BUILDING
IS THEIR
HOME!

YCK--
IT'S
DIS-
GUSTING!

AND IT
MAY BE
DANGEROUS!









WAAH!

IT'S TAKING ON
FORM! MONSTROUS
FETAL FORM!

SOMETHING MUST BE
FEEDING IT... GIVING IT
THE ENERGY TO...

...IT'S US! IT WANTS
HYPERKIND ENERGY!

IT'S
SUCKING
ME IN!

THE ONLY SOLUTION IS
TO STARVE IT!

WE MUST
STOP USING
OUR POWERS!

YOU'RE
KIDDING,
RIGHT?

DOES
HE EVER
KID?



IT'S
LIKE A BABY--
SOMEHOW YOU
WOKE IT UP!
NOW YOU NEED
TO HUSH IT
AGAIN.

WAAAH!

STOP
FIGHTING AND
CALM IT! A
LULLABY!
MAYBE IF WE
SING TO IT...

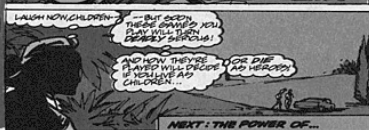
A PIXIE'S A
PAIR... I'LL
TELL YOU WHAT
THE FAIRIES

WAIT-- THAT'S A
CHILDREN'S RHYME--
I KNOW IT!

IF YOU
COME TO ME ON
THE SHINING
PATH...

GWA?!

IT'S WORKING!
THE THINGS CALMING!
SHRINKING...



NEXT: THE POWER OF...
PARAGON JOHN

HYPERKIND

Why super heroes? Isn't the comics industry already gorged with these caped and airborne testosterone cases? [The comics industry] does have a huge number of heroes who have the problem of lots of flash on the surface and very little content. The old line of there being only so few stories to tell, you know, maybe there are more than that, but maybe there aren't a lot more. The issue isn't what stories you're telling, the issue is what those stories are doing to the imagination of the readers, and what the writers—and in this case, obviously, the artists—bring to this particular interpretation.

My belief is that super heroes are like the Faust myth, or like goblins and fairy tales, or, you know, suicidal matrons in French novels. Characters which can be infinitely re-interpreted. The issue is: is there something that you can, as the creator, uniquely bring to suicidal matrons, or the goblins, or, in this case, super heroes? What we've tried to do with these titles and what we're going to be trying to do in these titles to come is find a particular cutting-edge take on the character.

In the case of HYPERKIND, Fred Burke has crafted a series of characters who are very Nineties, who are very far from the world of Reed Richards. They're street kids in contemporary Los Angeles who have been shaped and bruised by abuse and drugs, and who are now given quite accidentally the powers of minor divinity. This issue is what we do with those things. How does a kid who has really known only abuse through his or her life without a role model as Aunt May was to Peter Parker—how does that kid deal with powers which are actually greater than those offered by the average radioactive spider?

These are characters who are dealing with, shall we say, a change in their lives. They're going to have to find, within themselves, the values that alter the way they look at that world and themselves, or else implode. That's very different from The Fantastic Four, or, indeed, The X-Men, with Professor Xavier on hand as somebody to offer a kind of moral viewpoint to these kids. I think it's a more modern take on these heroes."

—excerpted from

The Austin Chronicle
July 23, 1993

the big sell-out

Do me a favor. Call or, better yet, visit your local comic shop. You know the one—your favorite, the one you probably just picked this comic up at. Go there and ask them how many copies of HYPERKIND #1 they still have on sale.

Don't mind me, I'll be here waiting for you to come back.

But, just in case you're among the suspense-is-killing-me crowd, or even the get-to-the-bloody-point-already clique who just left the shop and aren't anxious to go back without another full pocket of change, I'll tell you why. The book is history.

From the reports I've heard from extremely reliable sources across the country and points across the ocean, the demand for the first issue of this title has far outweighed the ordered supply.

We, meaning a crew of direct sales staff, myself, and Clive Barker at the helm spent months around the country telling people what the RAZORLINE was going to be, what it was about, how it was going to do, and how excited everyone was going to be about it. Some believed us, but unfortunately, in this summer of a thousand universes, most were jaded and had heard the promise before. The result was that the first issue was drastically under-ordered on each of the four RAZORLINE titles. This was true to such a degree that, when the books came out and you readers found the promise was fulfilled, the books flew off the shelves. In many cases, at this writing, HYPERKIND #1 was gone in the first two days. ECTOKIND #1 was history after four. And so on. And so on.

the game

But don't take my word for it. I invite you to partake in a little experiment, that I've tried several times in the past few weekends, in between baseball and STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION reruns.

Walk into a comic store and ask for HYPERKIND #1. Watch the sales clerks puzzled expression. Then ask again, explaining you're after the premiere title in Marvel's RAZORLINE imprint. Super heroes from the mind of Clive Barker. Watch the look of recognition, giving way to puzzlement. Do they have it?

One store owner was certain he knew that he had a copy around somewhere. He must—he always orders healthily on first issues of new titles. And after all, the first issues from several of the other new universes are still proudly on display, yelling out "buy me, please...please." It's gotta be there somewhere.

Then wait. And wait. This is the hard part.

When the realization sinks in, ask him if he can remember exactly when he sold out. This is the pay-off. This I tell you a lot.

Hey, what can I tell you? Summer is slowing in Brooklyn, and the Mets are sat off their game.

you may have already won

So, if you are among the privileged few who bought the book on the day it came out or close thereafter (I hear in more than a dozen stores, the title sold out in two days!) pat yourself on the back for your luck and/or skill.

If you're among the brilliant few who tried to order the book, but found your dealer drastically under-ordered, stick with us as we fill you in on everything you missed. We want you along for the ride.

And, if you're among the significant some who just jumped on, welcome.

Now do me a favor, all of you; next time you're in your local comic shop, remind them to order more of next issue. We're hot, and we don't care who knows it...

Next in HYPERKIND #4:

The hyperkind are at the mercy of Paragon John, the most dangerous man in the Barkerverse! Be here as we uncover the secret behind the Age Without Heroes, in "Raging Paragon!"

Next week in ECTOKIND #3:

Dex takes his first furtive steps into the Ectosphere—into the heart of a demonic maelstrom! With heroes the like of Cyranoe DeBergerac and Edgar Allan Poe at his side, Dex's first Ectospherian adventure might still be his last!

ELSEWHERE, ALONG THE RAZOR'S EDGE:

HOKUM & HEX #3:

Meet Wrath—a beautiful and deadly bounty hunter hired to find out the truth behind Trip's "magic!" She's determined to make him her ultimate trophy—dead or alive!

SAINT SINNER #3:

At last, the demon and the angel at war within the soul of Phillip Fetter have all their secrets revealed! But every truth has its price, as the demon is on the verge of screaming free—and killing Saint Sinner in the process!